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JUN 01 2007

U.S. Application No.: 10/826,532
Amendment A
Reply to Office Action Dated December 1, 2006

Attorney Docket: 2057.017

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces any earlier listing:

1. (currently amended) A sprocket, said sprocket comprising:
a sprocket body having a center, a perimeter, an inner side, an outer side, and a plurality of circumferentially spaced teeth extending radially and outwardly from an outer periphery of the sprocket body, wherein each tooth includes a tip and a base, said sprocket body having a non-circular shape with two long radius sides and two short radius sides;
wherein the center includes at least three engaging recessions;
wherein the outer side of the body includes [[a]] at least one recessed surface and optionally at least two one raised surface surfaces and;
wherein each raised surface extends from the tip of each tooth to below the base of the tooth and projects from at least a first perimeter segment of said outer side and wherein at least a second perimeter segment of said outer side is free of raised surface; and
wherein the inner side of the body is free of raised surfaces.
2. (cancelled).
3. (currently amended) The sprocket according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the said at least one raised surface surfaces are is located on the high a long radius side of the sprocket body.
4. (cancelled).

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5. (currently amended) The sprocket according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein the sprocket body has at least two raised surfaces, which are distributed evenly throughout the perimeter of the sprocket body.
6. (currently amended) A one piece spacer comprising:
a boss part;
a ring part;
wherein the ring part is placed on a circle concentric with, but larger in circumference than the boss part;
wherein the boss part includes an outer perimeter, an inner perimeter, a front face, and a back face;
wherein the inner perimeter includes engaging channels and engaging protrusions which extend in the axial direction; and
wherein the outer perimeter includes at least three projections which extend in the axial direction.
7. (currently amended) A sprocket assembly comprising:
A) at least two sprockets axially and concentrically positioned relative to one another;
wherein each sprocket comprises:
a sprocket body having a center, a perimeter, an inner side, an outer side, and a plurality of circumferentially spaced teeth extending radially and outwardly from an outer periphery of the sprocket body, wherein each tooth includes a tip and a base, said sprocket body having a non-circular shape with two long radius sides and two short radius sides;
wherein the center includes at least three engaging recessions;

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wherein the outer side of the body includes ~~[[a]]~~ at least one recessed surface and optionally at least ~~two one~~ raised surface ~~surfaces~~ and;

wherein each raised surface extends from the tip of each tooth to below the base of the tooth and projects from at least a first perimeter segment of said outer side and wherein at least a second perimeter segment of said outer side is free of raised surface; and

wherein the inner side of the body is free of raised surfaces; and

B) at least one spacer located between two sprockets, the spacer comprising:

a boss part;

a ring part;

wherein the ring part is placed on a circle concentric with, but larger in circumference than the boss part;

wherein the boss part includes an outer perimeter, an inner perimeter, a front face, and a back face;

wherein the inner perimeter includes engaging channels and engaging protrusions which extend in the axial direction; and

wherein the outer perimeter includes at least three projections.

8. (original) The sprocket assembly according to claim 7, wherein only the boss part of the spacer enters the center of the sprocket, and wherein the projections slidably engage with the recessions of the sprocket.

9. (original) The sprocket assembly according to claim 7, wherein the projections move freely laterally inside the recessions of the sprocket.

10. (original) The sprocket assembly according to claim 9, wherein each sprocket independently moves inside the assembly.

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11. (original) The sprocket assembly according to claim 10, wherein each sprocket moves laterally to meet with a chain link during the passing of a chain from one sprocket to the next sprocket.
12. (original) The sprocket assembly according to claim 7, wherein the inner side of the body of the sprocket faces the next smaller sprocket, and the outer side of the body faces the next larger sprocket.
13. (original) The sprocket assembly according to claim 7, wherein during the transfer of a chain from sprocket to sprocket, only the raised surfaces of the sprocket engages link plates of the chain.
14. (original) The sprocket assembly according to claim 7, the assembly includes an even size sprocket adjacent to an odd size sprocket.